



Bringing the County Closer to You!

Marc Elrich, County Executive
Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Linda Moore, UCAB Chair

August 15, 2019

County to Open Disaster Loan Outreach Center

Low-interest loans may be available to County residents and businesses impacted by July 8 flooding. The County's Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is hosting a Disaster Loan Outreach Center to assist residents and businesses who may be eligible for financial assistance due to damage from the July 8 flood...

- [More information is available on the website.](#)

County Completes Most Aggressive Apartment Building Inspection Initiative in the Region

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich announced the County recently completed the most aggressive apartment building inspection initiative in the region. The County inspected more than 22,000 apartment units in 686 buildings and found over 31,000 violations. 96 percent of violations have been corrected and the County will continue conducting inspections to ensure that these buildings meet requirements. Montgomery County leads the region in identifying and focusing resources on the most problematic apartment buildings and implementing such a thorough and systematic enforcement regimen. [Read the news release](#)

Fall Registration Began August 12

Fall is the perfect time to learn a new skill or sport. Registration began for [Montgomery County Recreation](#) and [Montgomery Parks](#) fall classes and programs on Monday, August 12.

- [View Montgomery County Guide](#)



Upcoming Business Connect Opportunities

Montgomery County *Business Connect Upcounty* is pleased to host the following classes and counseling opportunities for area businesses. *Business Connect* is a program of Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich designed to make business services available in the community. In addition to classes and one-on-one business counseling, the Montgomery County [Small Business Navigator](#) is on-site at the Upcounty Regional Services Center to help businesses in the region connect to County resources, services and Departments.

Visit the [Montgomery County Business Portal](#) for valuable business information, a listing of training & workshops and contact information for the Montgomery County Business Solutions Group which includes the small business navigator and business liaison officers available to assist local businesses.

One-on-One Business Counseling with Maryland Women's Business Center

Mondays from 9:00am – 12:00n
Germantown Library, Room 4
19840 Century Blvd, Germantown
By Appointment Only
<https://marylandwbc.org/>

One-on-One Business Counseling with the Small Business Development Center

Wednesdays from 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Upcounty Regional Services Center, Room 1
12900 Middlebrook Rd., Germantown
By Appointment Only
[Schedule an appointment](#)

[QuickBooks For Small Businesses](#)

Wednesday, August 28 10:00am-12:00n
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Disaster Loan Information and Assistance Sessions

Public Safety Headquarters
100 Edison Park Dr., Gaithersburg
Friday, August 16 9:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday, August 17 10:00am – 2:00pm
Monday, August 19 9:00am – 6:00pm
Tuesday, August 20 9:00am – 6:00pm
Wednesday, August 21 9:00am – 5:00pm

Take the 4Business Climate Survey

Montgomery County officials are asking local business owners to take the [4Business Climate Survey](#), as part of the [Benchmarking to Be the Best for Business](#) initiative. The survey features 55 questions to gather more information about the County's business environment. Read the [news release](#).

- [Take the survey](#)

SHA Provides Commuter & Travel Information

Whether you're commuting to work, vacationing, or on a drive, there is helpful information from the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) to guide you. Check on:

Commuter Information

This helpful page lets you

- view live traffic
- plot shortest routes
- identify accidents
- obtain emergency weather alerts
- use special HOV lanes
- find Park-n-Rides
- learn about active construction sites

Travel and Tourism

Locate scenic byways, highway welcome centers, and tourist destinations as you plan your trip through Maryland

Click [Here](#) to visit their website.



Grammy and Emmy Winner Arturo Sandoval Headlines 16th Annual Silver Spring Jazz Festival Saturday, August 24 3:00pm-10:00pm

**Veterans Plaza
One Veterans Place, Silver Spring**

The free event features two stages of afternoon and evening entertainment. New this year, the Jazz Festival is scheduled the weekend before the Labor Day holiday to make it the County's end-of-the-summer celebration. More information is available in the [Paperless Airplane](#).

Link to press release if it is helpful:

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?ItemID=23352

Senior Forum and Resource Fair Thursday, September 5 9:30am - 12:30pm Potomac Community Recreation Center 11315 Falls Road, Potomac

During the forum, subject matter experts will speak with participants about topics such as how to reduce the risk of dementia, fall prevention, and detecting and avoiding financial abuse. The resource fair will also give participants the opportunity to interact with a wide range of service providers about subjects including aging in place, preventing elder abuse, lifelong learning and transportation, among others. [Get details.](#)



New *Thrive Montgomery 2050* Events

Montgomery County's Planning Department is excited to announce new events for the residents of Montgomery County to talk to them about their ideas for the future of the county.

Meet Montgomery Planning staff at the following events to learn more about *Thrive Montgomery 2050* and share your ideas about the future of Montgomery County:

- **Friday, August 23** – Beer and Wine Garden Party, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Sandy Spring Museum (17901 Bentley Road, Sandy Springs, MD). [Register online](#) for the event.
- **Sunday, September 15** –FutureFest, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building (1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring, MD), will feature hands-on activities, cutting-edge innovations and immersive cultural exhibits — all designed to inspire kids and adults alike.
- **Friday, September 20** – Park(ing) Day was started in 2005 to re-think the use of public space by converting metered on-street parking spaces into temporary parks. This year, Montgomery Planning will transform a parking space at Fenton Street and Ellsworth Drive in downtown Silver Spring. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Friday, September 20 through Friday, September 27** – The Thrive Montgomery 2050 planning effort will be part of [Long Branch Festival Week](#), held to reimagine a livelier and friendlier downtown in Long Branch. The community will be asked for feedback and volunteer hours to create a temporary civic green. This transformed outdoor space will host food and retail vendors, Montgomery Parks activities and features, and a fun and inviting place for residents during a public celebration drawing residents and visitors. The event will take place at Flower Avenue Urban Park (8746 Flower Ave, Silver Spring, MD) and the shopping center across the street.
- **Saturday, September 21** – Poolesville Day Festival, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Whalen Commons Park (19701 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD).
- **Saturday, September 21** –Montgomery Hills Street Festival, held from 3 to 7 p.m. on Georgia Avenue from Columbia Boulevard to Seminary Road.
- **Sunday, September 22** – Wheaton Arts Parade and Festival, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Wheaton Veterans Urban Park (11200 Amherst Avenue, Wheaton, MD).
- **Saturday, October 5** –Taste of Bethesda food and music festival, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., held along Norfolk, St. Elmo, Cordell, Del Ray and Auburn Avenues in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle.
- **Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6** – The [Burtonsville Placemaking Festival](#), co-sponsored by Montgomery Planning and the Dallas-based Better Block Foundation, will bring together residents, visitors, local business owners and representatives of civic associations to demonstrate ways of improving this neighborhood setting. The event will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. on October 5 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on October 6 at the Burtonsville Crossing Shopping Center (15701 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD).

Other Ways to Get Involved - Visit us on [our website](#) or take [our two-minute quiz](#) to get a better understanding about the challenges and opportunities we face in the decades to come.

Contact the Project Lead, questions:

Khalid Afzal
301-495-4650

Khalid.Afzal@montgomeryplanning.org

Montgomery Parks Announces 2019 - 2020 Annual Deer Population Management Operations and Seasonal Park Closures

Eight park units added to ongoing efforts.

[Montgomery Parks](#), part of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) will begin its annual deer population management program in September 2019 into March 2020. Eight park units have been added this year, for a total of 54 parks where archery and/or shotgun managed deer hunting, or Park Police-based sharpshooting operations will take place. The 54 parks comprise more than 50% of Montgomery Parks total land area.

Initiated 23 years ago, [the program](#) addresses overabundant deer populations in many areas of the county that result in deer-automobile accidents, excessive damage to the environment, private landscapes and agriculture, and concerns over disease. Once programming is implemented and established in these areas, routine maintenance is typically required to balance deer with the available habitat and human land uses.

Over 19,500 deer have been removed from select parks since the inception of the program. All the resultant deer meat is utilized and/or donated by managed hunting participants and, in the case of Park Police operations, donated to the Capital Area Food Bank—over 315,000 pounds to date.

This year, the following parks are being added to deer population management efforts: [Laytonia Recreational Park, Pope Farm Nursery and Muncaster Recreational Park, Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park Units 2 & 3](#), and Cabin John Stream Valley Park Units 1 – 3. In addition to the expansions, two park locations will see an adjustment to strategy. Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park Unit 1 will transition from sharpshooting to archery managed hunting, and [Bucklodge Conservation Park will add archery hunting to its existing shotgun-based managed hunting efforts](#). Residents adjacent to the newly added park locations are notified by mail of new deer population management expansions.

Signs alerting the public of all hunts are posted in advance throughout and surrounding affected parks, at all park entrances and in select communities surrounding the affected parks.

[Learn more.](#)

Montgomery County's Upcounty Regional Office Announces Matching Mini-Grants Now Available for Neighborhood Projects or Events!

Sometimes all that is keeping a wonderful neighborhood event from materializing is a relatively small amount of resources... Well, now there is a local source for that!

The Neighborhood Events Matching Fund was established by Montgomery County to encourage community-building activities, capacity-building, networking, and to stimulate the local economy. The maximum grant amount is \$1,000. Funds must be matched, and the event must take place during this fiscal year – between now and June 30, 2020.

Applying is easy. [Download](#) the application form, complete it, and submit it to Catherine Matthews, Director for the county's Upcounty Regional Office, at upcounty.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov.

There is no deadline for application, but funding is limited. So, regardless of whether your project or event is next month or months away, apply now!

See the [application](#) for more details and instructions.

Property Tax Credit Expanded for Surviving Spouses of Retired Military Services Members

The deadline to apply for the property tax credit is October 1, 2019.

On Tuesday, July 30, the Council unanimously voted to enact Expedited Bill 21-19, Property Tax Credit - Elderly Individuals and Retired Military Services Member - Surviving Spouse, which would expand the property tax credit for surviving spouses of retired military services members. Under Bill 21-19, a surviving spouse would be eligible for the credit if:

- the individual is a surviving spouse of a retired member of the uniformed services, the military reserves, or the national guard;
- the surviving spouse is at least 65 years old; and
- the surviving spouse has not remarried.

Once the expedited bill is signed into law, it will be effective from July 1, 2019 and eligible individuals can apply at the Department of Finance's website. The deadline to apply for the property tax credit is October 1, 2019.

To access the application and for more information visit: <https://tinyurl.com/SurvivingSpousesTaxCredit>.

The Council staff report for Expedited Bill 21-19 can be viewed [here](#).



Shady Grove Community Ride **Saturday, September 28 10:00am** **Shady Grove Metro** **15903 Somerville Drive, Rockville**

Ride Tags: Community Ride / ride / rockville /

Explore Shady Grove by bike as we peddle along Rockville's bicycle friendly streets and pathways. Learn how to commute from the Shady Grove Metro to the Fallsgrove and Life Sciences area, passing by beautiful parks along the way.

Our community education ride series is a fun, social and inclusive space for riders of varying experience and confidence. You will always have a great time on our rides, but they're also a safe space to ask questions and practice to make this fall's riding a breeze.

- Ride start and end – Shady Grove Metro Station
- Start time – 10:00 AM
- End time – 12:00 PM
- Distance – About 7 miles

Please bring your own bike and helmet. Helmets are a requirement on all WABA rides. If you have questions, [please read our ride policies here](#). Everyone ages 14 and up is welcome. All riders must sign a waiver. Riders under 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian. [See more details.](#)

Celebrating With Spirit

The Washington Spirit women's professional soccer team is based at the Montgomery County SoccerPlex in Boyds. Following a home game against Chicago last week, Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich (left) and County Councilmember Craig Rice (right) presented a proclamation to the Spirit players, coaches and owners to let the Spirit—whose roster this year includes Rose Lavelle and Mallory Pugh, two members of the U.S. national team that recently won the World Cup--know how much the County appreciates having it play games at what is known as one of the top sports complexes in the nation!



***** The County Council is on recess from August 5 to September 6, 2019. *****

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep>

Department of Permitting Services <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships>

Commission for Women <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org/>

Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs